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October 19, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

For Love of Dance: The Early Years of the UTEP Ballet at Focus on Perspectives Lecture Series

EL PASO, Texas – At 6 p.m. today, the El Paso Museum of History will host Dr. Cristina Palmer, author of *For the Love of Dance: The Early Years of UTEP Ballet*, as part of the Focus on Perspectives lecture series.

For Love of Dance honors Ingeborg Heuser's immeasurable contributions, and those of many other respected El Pasoans, whose combined efforts promoted and advanced the arts in our community. Ingeborg Heuser grew up in Nazi Germany, an era of unprecedented political and social upheaval. She founded UTEP Ballet in El Paso in the 1950s. Journey with Heuser through the next three and a half decades of our local ballet's history to 2006 – the final production of the *Nutcracker Ballet* presented at the Plaza Theater.

Photos and images from the book will be accompanied by music during the presentation.

Dr. Palmer, an El Paso native, is a graduate of Loretto Academy, UTEP and the University of Texas Austin. She pursued careers as a teacher and psychologist, but continued to indulge her passion for ballet. Throughout her life, she maintained a commitment to the art of ballet, first as a member of the University Civic Ballet in El Paso, then continuing her studies in Austin and Fort Worth. Upon returning to El Paso, she and her husband became active volunteers with the UTEP Ballet, the El Paso Conservatory of Dance and the El Paso Youth Ballet. This book helps preserve an important part of El Paso's history that enriched many lives.

Focus on Perspectives is a free, once-a-month lecture series sponsored in part by a grant from Humanities Texas, and by the El Paso Museum of History. Humanities Texas is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Its mission is to provide educational excellence through programming that supports lifelong learning.

Focus on Perspectives is a free lecture series, but an R.S.V.P. is requested. Call (915) 212-3161.

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